

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thoroughness with which the Examiner has examined the above-identified application. Applicants have endeavored to amend the application in a sincere effort to overcome the objections and rejections, and reconsideration is requested in view of the amendments above and the remarks below.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has allowed claims 3-6 and 13. (Claims 1-2, 7-9, and 11-12 were cancelled in a previous amendment.) Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13 is dependent upon claim 10. Consequently, applicants have rewritten claim 13 in independent form including all the limitations of its base claim. Rewritten claim 13 is submitted as new claim 16. Moreover, as claim 15 is dependent upon allowed claim 13, applicants have rewritten claim 15 as new claim 17 dependent upon newly created independent claim 16. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 16 and 17 are placed in a condition for allowance.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 10 and 14-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Newman, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,983,245).

Applicants have amended claim 10 to include the method steps of allowed claim 3. By doing so, applicants claim a program storage device capable of performing the allowed method steps. Applicants have amended claim 13 (designating lettered method steps) to be properly dependent upon claim 10. Applicants have cancelled claim 14. Applicants submit that the identified amendments put these claims in a condition for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that the application has now been brought into a condition where allowance of the entire case is proper. Reconsideration and issuance of a notice of allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,




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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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